

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-8 Cancelled.

9 (Currently Amended). A method for inducing myelination and remyelination of neurons and protecting neurons from ~~pathological insults~~ NMDA-induced cell death, from neurotoxicity induced by excitatory amino acids and from toxicity caused by the withdrawal of NGF, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of interleukin-6 receptor - interleukin-6 (IL6RIL6) chimera[[]], thereby resulting in the induction of myelination or remyelination of neurons or the protection of neurons from ~~pathological insults~~ NMDA-induced cell death, from neurotoxicity induced by excitatory amino acids and from toxicity caused by the withdrawal of NGF.

10 (Currently Amended). The method of claim 9, ~~for protecting neurons from pathological insults, wherein the pathological insult is one resulting~~ wherein the patient in need is one suffering from Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

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Amdt. dated February 22, 2005

Reply to Office action of October 20, 2004

11 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 9, for inducing myelination and remyelination of neurons, wherein the patient in need is one suffering from traumatic nerve degeneration or a demyelinating disease of the central nervous system (CNS) or peripheral nervous system (PNS).

12 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 11, wherein the patient in need is one suffering from multiple sclerosis (MS).

13 (Canceled).

14 (Previously Presented). A method in accordance with claim 9, wherein said IL6RIL6 chimera is administered together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

15 (Previously Presented). A method in accordance with claim 10, wherein said IL6RIL6 chimera is administered together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.